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April 23, 2004

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Application Serial Number: 10/685,914

Filed: October 15, 2003

Inventor: Copeland

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Known

Examiner: Not Yet Known

Attorney Docket Number:

Via Express Mail No. EV302016386US

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

under 37 CFR 1.97(b), being before the mailing date of the first office action on the merits

under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
a \$240.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)

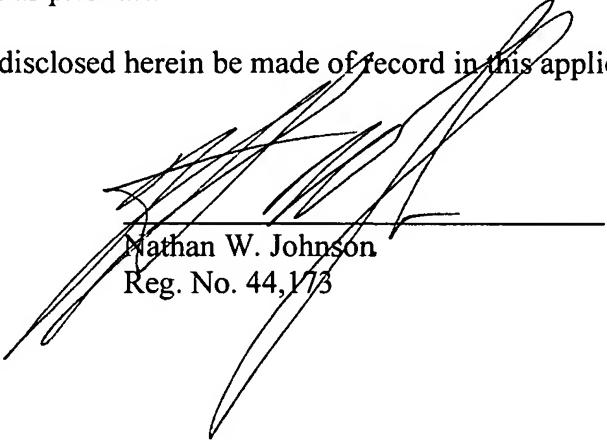
under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a:
Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and
a petition under 37 CFR 1.97(d)(2)(ii), and
a \$130.00 petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1).
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee)

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Statement for which there may or may not be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The filing of the IDS is not representation that the undersigned possesses any personal knowledge of the contents of each prior art reference listed, or that the documents are citable as prior art.

Applicant by submitting the above references taken alone or in combination neither represents nor admits that such references anticipate or render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested. Applicant accordingly reserves the right to challenge any reference to the submitted and identified documents as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application



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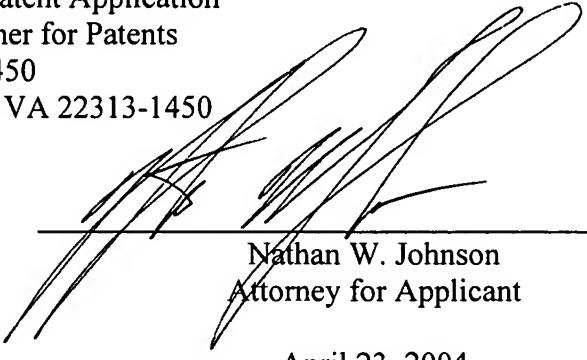


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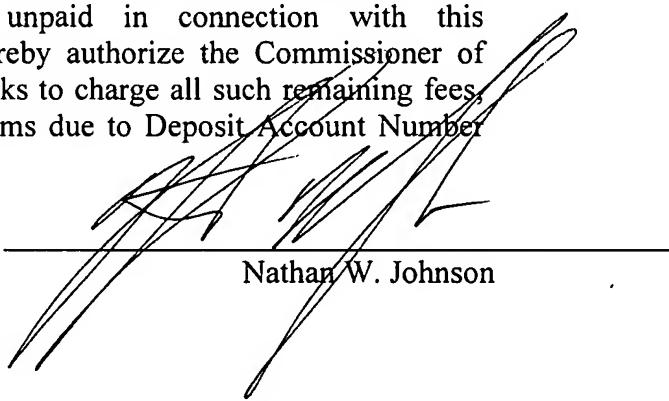
on April 23, 2004.


Nathan W. Johnson
Attorney for Applicant

April 23, 2004
Date of signature

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Nathan W. Johnson

APR 23 2004

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet

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of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/685,914
Filing Date	October 15, 2003
First Named Inventor	Copeland
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 784400	03-07-1905	F. F. Howe	
		US- 1818493	08-11-1931	A. T. McWane	
		US- 2201372	05-21-1940	E. A. Miller	
		US- 3445120	05-20-1969	V. L. Barr	
		US- 4119335	10-10-1978	P. F. Rieffle	
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		US- 4878698	11-07-1989	R. F. Gilchrist	
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		US- 5150929	09-29-1992	Cyril B. Greatorex	
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		US- 5269569	12-14-1993	Weber et al.	
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		US- 5297826	03-29-1994	A. Percebois	
		US- 5332043	07-26-1994	Ferguson	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
N		JP-5229625-A	03-1977			

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

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Number-Kind Code ² (if known)					
		US- 5335946	08-09-1994	L. G. Dent	
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		US- 6173993	01-16-2001	Shumard et al.	
		US- 6220635	04-24-2001	Vitel et al.	
		US-			

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
Country Code ³ "Number" "Kind Code" (if known)					

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